



FISHING DERBY 2005: A Great Time Had By ALL!

The 3rd Annual Wal-Mart Kids All-American Fishing Derby was held on Saturday, June 4 from 9 AM-12 PM. The event encouraged children to try the sport of fishing.

Children, ages 6-16, fished alongside both the Frogshackle and Wildlife Ponds while trying to catch Small-Mouth Bass, Black Crappie, Catfish, and Bluegill. Prizes, donated by the Sterling Wal-Mart, were handed out to many of the participants as well as the fishing category winners (see photo to right).

A great time was had by all children and parents!



Front Row: Melissa Dubernas (Most Fish Caught with 9 fish), Daniel Gil (Biggest fish-10.5 oz bass and casting contest, ages 6-10), Shane Crawford (Smallest Fish-3.5 oz. Bluegill), Hallie Crawford (Second Biggest Fish-10 oz. Catfish).

Back row: Dempsey Bell (Manager, Dulles Crossing Plaza Wal-Mart), Dodie Lewis (Naturalist, Claude Moore Park), Jessica Gil (casting contest, ages 11-16).

Ol' Fashioned 4th of July Festival: Zoos, Ponies, and Crafts!

Mother Nature blessed Claude Moore Park on July 4th with sunny skies and low humidity for its Ol' Fashioned 4th of July Festival.

Over 2,000 people visited the park throughout the event. Pony rides, hay rides, crafts, and face painting were on-going through the day. Visitors



could also walk through the historic house, participate in a pie-eating contest, visit Frogshackle, or visit the Reptiles Alive Zoo. There were some great old-fashioned children's games too.



This was a great festival and a good time was had by all.



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CLAUDE MOORE PARK

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We're on the web!

Try: www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Each month, Claude Moore Park likes to recognize a volunteer who donates much of his or her spare time for program assistance, special event help, or other projects as needed.



Lauren Christoffersen volunteered at the Ol' Fashioned 4th of July Festival; she worked with young visitors outside of Frogshackle Nature Center.

This month, we're recognizing a whole team of volunteers: Claude Moore Park's Summer Naturalist Interns.

This summer's group of interns started on June 20 and will be working with the park until mid-August. This year's crop of interns include: Allyn Bennett, Jillian Bizal, Tim Bizal, Lauren Christoffersen, Lloyd Epperson, Eric Nguyen, Sabrina Ripperger, and Lauren Soni.

Projects that the teenagers will be working on include a fence project for the rear garden at the Visitor Center, work on the front garden at the Visitor Center, assistance at the park's summer camp programs, volunteer hours at the park's special events such as the Ol' Fashioned July 4th Festival, and much more.

Each summer, Claude Moore Park oversees an intern program to introduce teenagers to nature, conservancy, and much more.

If you would like to become a volunteer, contact us at 703-444-1275.

Upcoming special events or programs that you don't want to miss!

Does your 2nd-5th grader have an interest in the natural world? If so, think about the park's **Nature Camp** for exploring those interests. Pioneer Camp will be held during three different weeks this summer: July 18-22, July 25-29, and August 8-12. Camp runs from 9 AM-3 PM each day. Each week of camp will have a different theme including Forest Fling, Bugs and Birds, and Nature Detectives. Get out your magnifying glass and find the smallest bugs among the logs and bushes in the woods! Grab a set of binoculars and identify as many birds as you can! Walk among the tall trees and listen to the forest's sounds! Bring a snack, lunch, and water each day. Registration is open now for this camp and the fee is \$200/camper for the entire week. Ask for program #461203, sections 1, 2 or 3.



For those history lovers, Claude Moore Park has a great bus trip scheduled to introduce Loudoun County "**In The Beginning**." Visit Dranesville and Ball's Bluff battlefields; stop in Leesburg to consider recruiting for the Confederate army and the destruction

of the railroad and public property in the summer of 1861. Historian Steve Meserve will offer much more during this one-day trip on Saturday, July 16. The cost is \$45/person. Ask about program #461710-01.

Or if you'd rather take a walk through the park and visit the history in your backyard, stop by the Lanesville House during the July or August **Open Houses**. On Saturdays, July 30 and August 27, plan to visit the open houses from 9:30-11 AM. See the recent painting work done in both front parlors. Learn about the history of the only two families to ever have owned and lived in the house. Discover how the house was built in stages from just a two-room structure to what the house is today.



For more info., please contact the park at 703-444-1275.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity in 2005, Claude Moore Park has the project for you!

First, you can also volunteer by joining the ***Friends of Claude Moore Park Advisory Board***. This 501c3 volunteer group supports the park's events, staff, and programs through many avenues. This group has done fundraising, event staffing, and advocacy with local government. **The next meeting of the Friends of Claude Moore Park is September 7 at 7 PM at Pavilion 2 in the park.** Please join us for a meeting to see what the group is all about! We'll be hosting a potluck dinner and a tour of the Lanesville House.

Second, ***Claude Moore Park is recruiting volunteers to become docents*** for the Lanesville House, the park's historic

property. A docent is a specially-trained volunteer who provides tours and historical interpretation to the public. We're looking for docents with a love of history to volunteer as a way to ensure that the house remains open to the public. Special training will be available. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact us. We are gearing up for 2005 events and would love to have you as a part of our volunteer team!



Lanesville House decorated for the holidays in December of 2004.

Event Photos from the past month!



The crowd enjoys a lovely summer evening during the Father's Day concert on Sunday, June 19.



The Loudoun Jazz Ensemble filled the air with some great jazz tunes for the Father's Day concert.



Marshmallows were the treat of the night for the rescheduled Animal Changes Campfire.



Nature Instructor Laurie Eytel shows a shedded snake skin to a participant at the Animal Changes Campfire.

Calling all Arts & Crafts Vendors

Do you make and sell jewelry? Do you carve wood and sell your carvings? Do you sculpt pottery and sell your wares? If so, then Claude Moore Park is looking for you. The park is hosting the **1st Annual Autumn Arts & Crafts Show** on Saturday, September 10, 2005.

Claude Moore Park is approximately 30 miles from Washington, DC and Frederick, MD, in the heart of Northern Virginia's shopping district, and close to Route 7, the Capital Beltway, the Dulles Greenway, and Route 28.



This outdoor show will run 10 AM-4 PM; vendors will be allowed to set-up starting at 7:30 AM. Event clean-up will run from 4:15-7:30 PM. For \$20, vendors will be provided with an assigned 10 x 10 area; vendors must provide their own tables, chairs, and tents. This event will be held rain or shine. Vendors will be able to park at their selling location. LIMITED electricity is available for \$10; at this time, the park is limiting electricity to food vendors.

Spaces will be pre-assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. A final confirmation packet will be sent two weeks prior to the show detailing directions, a park map, and grounds information including each vendor's location. Admission to the public is FREE.

Please visit www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm and go to the park's special event section; vendors can download an application from this site. **At the time of printing of this newsletter edition, there are approximately 10 spaces remaining! Sign up today to become part of this great event!**